



Corres. and Mail
BOX AF

500.40886X00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE PURSUANT
TO 37 CFR §1.116 REQUESTED
Attn: Mail Stop AF

Applicants: Tetsuya HORI et al.

Serial No.: 09/988,994

Filed: November 21, 2001

For: **IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS AND METHOD**

Group: 2615

Examiner: Brian C. Genco

RECEIVED

FEB 11 2004

Technology Center 2600

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION AND
REQUEST FOR AN IN-PERSON OFFICE INTERVIEW

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

February 9, 2004

Sir:

In response to the final Office Action (Paper No. 17) dated on November 7, 2003, please consider and enter the following arguments and remarks against the outstanding rejection of claims 15-30 as follows. In addition, Applicants also request for an in-person Office Interview be scheduled and conducted as soon as practicable to advance the prosecution of the application.

Listing of the Claims begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.